

United States Senator Lincoln D. Chafee (R-RI)

Senator Lincoln Davenport Chafee was born in Providence on March 26, 1953. He attended Warwick Public Schools and Phillips Andover Academy. He earned a degree in Classics from Brown University in 1975. While there, he was captain of the wrestling team and received the Francis M. Driscoll Award for leadership, scholarship and athletics.

After Brown, Lincoln Chafee attended the Montana State University horseshoeing school in Bozeman. For the next seven years he worked as a blacksmith at harness racetracks in the United States and Canada. One of the horses he shod, Overburden, set the track record at Northlands Park in Edmonton, Alberta.

Returning to Rhode Island in 1983, Lincoln Chafee working in manufacturing management, including a position as a planner at the General Dynamics facility at Quonset Point. He also served as Executive Director of the Northeast Corridor Initiative, a non-profit organization promoting the modernization of rail service throughout the eastern seaboard.

Lincoln Chafee began his political career in 1985, when he was elected a delegate to the Rhode Island Constitutional Convention. One year later, he was elected to the first of two successive terms on the Warwick City Council.

In November 1992, by a margin of 335 votes, Lincoln Chafee became the first Republican elected Mayor of the City of Warwick in 32 years. He was reelected in 1994, 1996, and 1998, where he won with 58 percent of the vote and carried every ward in the city. As mayor, Lincoln Chafee had a strong record of fiscal management, environmental protection, open space acquisition, intergovernmental cooperation, economic development, labor relations, and significant increases in funding for schools.

Lincoln Chafee was appointed by the Governor of Rhode Island to fill the unexpired term of his father, the late Senator John H. Chafee, in November 1999. On November 7, 2000, Senator Chafee was elected to a six-year term in the United States Senate. At this time, he serves as a member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works and is the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Control and Risk Assessment. He is also a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Joint Economic Committee.

Lincoln Chafee enjoys skiing and trail riding on his horse Trapper. He and his wife, Stephanie, have three children, Louisa, Caleb, and Thea.